CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA) REQUEST TRANSMITTAL 1 8 2002 Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing. CHECK BOX, if applicable: (Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d)) **DUPLICATE** 03500.013974 Attorney Docket No. Address to: First Named Inventor TADAHIRO OHMI ET AL. Commissioner for Patents **Box CPA Examiner Name** D.Monbleau Group Art Unit 2874 Washington, DC 20231 Express Mail Label No. X | continuation or divisional application under 37 CFR/1.53 This is a request for a (continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09/425,015 filed on October 25, 1999 , entitled GAS SUPPLY PATH STRUCTURE FOR A GAS L NOTES FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as define by 37 CFR § 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. A Notice will be placed on a patent issuing from a CPA, except for reissues and designs, to the effect that the patent issued on a CPA and is subject to the twenty-year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 154(a)(2). Therefore, the prior application of a CPA may have been filed before, on or after June 8, C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR § 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR § 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the other application or applications in the file jacket. 35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 CFR § 1.78(a). October 21, 2002 Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on under 37 CFR § 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application. X | A preliminary amendment is enclosed. 2. a. The applicant(s) presently intend(s) to file additional papers in this case shortly. Should the Examiner b. take this case up for action before receiving such papers, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner

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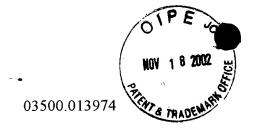
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	CLAIM	s	(1) FOR	(2) N	UMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) R	ATE	(5) CAL	CULATIONS	_
			OTAL CLAIMS CFR § 1.16(c) or (j)		24-20 =	4	X \$ 18.00	=	\$ 72.00)	
			DEPENDENT CLA CFR § 1.16(b) or (i)		2 -3 =	0	X \$ 84.00	=	\$ 0.00		
		ML	JLTIPLE DEPEN	IDENT CLAIN	MS (if applicable) (37	CFR § 1.16(d))	§ 1.16(d)) \$280.00 =			\$ 0.00	
								SIC FEE R § 1.16(a))	\$ 740.00)	
		Total of above calculations = \$ 812.00)	
		Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 CFR §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).									
		TOTAL = \$ 812.00									
	6.	Small	entity status								
	á	a.			tement is enclose						
	k	o .	A sn	nall entity sta	tement was filed i	n the prior nonprovisions	al applicatio	n and sucl	h status i	s still proper	
	(D .		longer claim							
	7.		Small entity s	tatus: Applic	ant claims small e	entity status. See 37 CF	R § 1.27.				
	8.	X	A check in the	• •		enclosed.	3				
	9.	The Co Depos	ommissioner is t sit Account No. 0	nereby author 6-1205:	rized to credit ove	rpayments or charge de	ficiencies in	the follow	ing fees	to	
	á	a.	X Fees	required un	der 37 CFR § 1.1	3 .					
	k	٥.	X Fees	required un	der 37 CFR § 1.1	7.					
	(c. Fees required under 37 CFR § 1.18.									
	10.	Applicant requests suspension of action under 37 CFR § 1.103(b) for three months. (Fee of \$130.00 required under 37 CFR § 1.17(i) is enclosed).									
	11. a	а.	Rece	eipt For Facs	imile Transmitted	CPA (PTO/SB/29A).					
	k	b. X Return Receipt Postcard (Should be specifically itemized. See MPEP 503).									
	12.	X Other Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and check for \$110.00									
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Ν	NOTE: The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below										
					13. NEW CORR	ESPONDENCE ADDRESS]
		Custome	er Number or Bar Coo	le Label	(Insert Customer)	lg, or Atlach bar code tabel here)	or	New corres	pondence a	ddress below	
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	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED										
		NAME Scott D. Malpede									
		SIGNATURE JUST V. Welker									
		REGISTRATION NO. 32,533									
		DATE November 18, 2002									
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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
TADAHIRO OHMI ET AL.	:	Examiner: Davienne Monbleau
Application No.: 09/425,015	;	Group Art Unit: 2874
Filed: October 25, 1999	·)	17# /n # 20 EW
For: GAS SUPPLY PATH STRUCTURE FOR A GAS LASER) :	November 18, 2002
Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231		11/21/2

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-captioned application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS



Please cancel claims 41-44 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is to cancel claims 41-44, which were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as being directed to a non-elected invention. The claims presented for examination are 17-40, with claims 17 and 30 being